

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 008505

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS STATE 008505

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH PRESS AND CIA ALLEGATIONS

FOLLOWING ARE PERTINENT EXCERPTS FROM NOON PRESS BRIEFING
JANUARY 13 RE FRENCH NEWSPAPERS' PUBLICATION OF ALLEGED
CIA PERSONS.

QUOTE

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE PUBLICATION IN FRENCH
NEWSPAPERS TODAY ALLEGEDLY OF NAMES OF CIA PEOPLE AND
REPORTED COOPERATION WITH AMERICAN PUBLICATIONS IN THAT
REGARD?

A: I DO NOT WANT TO COMMENT ON ANY SUCH ACCOUNT OF ANY
SPECIFIC PUBLICATION. BUT, IN GENERAL, I THINK EXPERIENCE
HAS SHOWN THAT THE PRINTING OF SUCH LISTS IS EXTREMELY
IRRESPONSIBLE, THAT IT CAN INCITE LUNATICS AND FANATICS
TO ATTACK INDIVIDUAL DIPLOMATS. SO WE, OBVIOUSLY, VIEW
THIS KIND OF PUBLISHING VENTURE AS CONTEMPTIBLE AND
INFLAMMATORY.

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Q: DID YOU TRY TO PREVENT THE PUBLICATION? WERE YOU IN

TOUCH WITH THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT?

A: WE WERE IN TOUCH WITH THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT ON THIS MATTER.

Q: BEFORE THE PUBLICATION OR AS A RESULT OF THE PUBLICATION?

A: ON BACKGROUND, I BELIEVE WE WERE IN TOUCH WITH THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT BEFORE, BUT I AM NOT SURE OF THAT. I WILL CHECK THAT FACT. THAT IS ON BACKGROUND.

Q: WITH THE PAPER?

A: I DO NOT KNOW THAT.
ON THE RECORD, WE ARE IN TOUCH WITH THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT ON THIS MATTER.

Q: YOU WERE BEFORE?

A: ON BACKGROUND THAT IS WHAT I AM CHECKING.

Q: TO WHAT END?

A: I WILL JUST NOT GO BEYOND WHAT I SAID. END QUOTE KISSINGER

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